

What is claimed is:

1 A scanner comprising:

a cold-cathode-tube light source for illuminating a surface of a document;

5 a photoelectric conversion element for receiving light reflected from the surface of said document and producing an image signal;

a temperature detection circuit for detecting an ambient temperature; and

10 a control circuit for controlling a drive signal according to detected temperature information, said drive signal illuminating said cold-cathode-tube light source when said document is read.

2 The scanner defined in Claim 1, wherein said control circuit controls the current of said drive signal applied on electrodes of said cold-cathode-tube light source based on said temperature information upon reading said document.

15 3 The scanner defined in Claim 1, wherein said control circuit controls the voltage of said drive signal applied on electrodes of said cold-cathode-tube light source based on said temperature information upon reading said document.

20 4 The scanner defined in Claim 1, wherein said control circuit controls an applied time of said drive signal applied on electrodes of said cold-cathode-tube light source based on said temperature information upon reading

said document.

5 The scanner defined in Claim 1, wherein said control circuit controls the frequency of said drive signal applied on electrodes of said cold-cathode-tube light 5 source based on said temperature information upon reading said document.

6 A scanner comprising:

 a cold-cathode-tube light source for illuminating a surface of a document;

10 a photoelectric conversion element for receiving light reflected from the surface of said document and producing an image signal;

 an impedance detection circuit for detecting an impedance between electrodes of said cold-cathode-tube light source; 15 and

 a control circuit for controlling a drive signal according to detected impedance information, said drive signal illuminating said cold-cathode-tube light source when said document is read.

20 *SM* 7 A method of controlling a drive signal for illuminating a cold-cathode-tube light source comprising the steps of:

 detecting an ambient temperature and

 controlling a drive signal based on said detected temperature information, said drive signal illuminating 25 said cold-cathode-tube light source when said document is

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center* read.

8 The method of controlling a drive signal for illuminating a cold-cathode-tube light source defined in Claim 7, wherein said step of controls the current of said drive signal applied on electrodes of said cold-cathode-tube light source based on said temperature information upon reading said document.

9 The method of controlling a drive signal for illuminating a cold-cathode-tube light source defined in Claim 7, wherein said step of controls the voltage of said drive signal applied on electrodes of said cold-cathode-tube light source based on said temperature information upon reading said document.

10 The method of controlling a drive signal for illuminating a cold-cathode-tube light source defined in Claim 7, wherein said step of controls an applied time of said drive signal applied on electrodes of said cold-cathode-tube light source based on said temperature information upon reading said document.

15 11 The method of controlling a drive signal for illuminating a cold-cathode-tube light source defined in Claim 7, wherein said step of controls the frequency of said drive signal applied on electrodes of said cold-cathode-tube light source based on said temperature information upon reading said document.

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